From: marek@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca@inetgw

To: dept. of justice

Date: 1/17/02 9:23am

Subject: Open file formats

I would like to comment on the Microsoft case.

There should be a push towards opening Microsoft file formats (ea.. Word, Excel)

if government doesn't want to find itself in a position where Bill Gates will dictate when and what software to use and how much to put in his coffers.

It only make sense that user should be able to use any word processor to open a document, or any spreadsheet program to open a spreadsheet and so on.

You do not have to break company apart to force competition. Just insist that in order to get government software contracts, it has to be open file format.

Regards Marek Kiela

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